ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

—OF THE—

14TH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Pea River Missionary Baptist

ASSOCIATION,

—HELD WITH—

Bluff Springs Baptist Church, Coffee County, Ala.

November 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1890.

OFFICERS:

J. W. BROOKS	MODERATOR	Elba, Ala.
A. J. WISE, JR	CLERK	Victoria, Ala.
W. J. SPENLIN	TREASURER	Elba, Ala.

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MINUTES

OF THE

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Pea River Baptist Association.

The Pea River Baptist Association met in its 14th Annual Session on the first day of November, 1890, with Bluff Springs Church. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder John Bradley.

After one hour for refreshments, the Association was called to order by the Moderator, J. W. Brooks, Singing and prayer by C. L. Eilands.

The letters from the several churches were presented and read by C. L. Eilands and J. D. Parkman, and delegates' names enrolled as follows:

Piney Grove—J W Brooks, A J Brooks, W T Johnson.
Union Grove—Wiley Smith, H R Snellgrove.
Bluff Springs—I J Johnson, W H Johnson, W H Archer.
Sardis—*W. H. Roberts, T J Geogaghan, W M Hall.
Zion Chapel—J H Forman, W H Heard, J J Calhoun.
Shiloh—M A Helms, C O Helms.
Damascus—J H Smith, C I Stewart, J D Parkman.
New Home—J J Thomas, W G W Harper, *J L Watson.
Hebron—J J Bradley, Z R Fuller, Jno Bradley.
Mount Pleasant—W H Smith, H S Nichols, *L B Heath.
Three Notch Bethlehem—J W Bullard, B F Cotton, *Isaac McClean.
New Ebenezer—J A Taylor, J W McCart, J R Spurlin.
White Water—D J Williams, *H D McCallum, *T D Kendrick.
Woodland Grove—*C R Talbot, E G Brunson.
New Providence—W J Spurlin, Joel Donaldson.
Bethlehem—A J Wise, Jr, L F Jernigan, M Brooks.
New Hope—J T Eagerton, *W J Mitchell, *J J Dismuke.
Elba—Daniel Swarmer, *J J Morris, *B A Hill.

Then proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted as follows: J W Brooks, Moderator; A J Wise, Jr, Clerk; W J Spurlin, Treasurer.

Invited visiting ministers to seats in the Association. Called for petitionary letters from churches desiring membership, when letters were presented from Pilgrim's Rest by her delegates C A Anderson, Wm Harrison, T E Bedsole; also one from Mt. Pleasant Church from Covington by her delegates Nelson Barnes, with J R Spurlin proxy, which was received, together with the bearers, and the right hand of fellowship extended by the Moderator in behalf of the Association.

The following committees were appointed to report during the session:

On Divine Service—The delegates and deacons from Bluff Springs Church, with J D Parkman and M A Helms.
On Missions—D Sevanner, J H Smith and C O Helms.
On Finance—W H Smith, H S Nichols and L F Jennigan.
On Documents—J J Bradley, W H Heard and Z R Fuller.
On Nominations, J R Spenlin, A J Brooks and W M Hall.
On Sabbath Schools—E G Brunson. D J Williams, J J Thames.
On Temperance—J D Parkman, L J Geogaghan, H D McCallum.
On Periodicals—Wiley Smith, W T Johnson, C I Stewart.

Committee on Divine Services reported to preach Saturday night, A J Brooks; Sabbath 11 a. m., R W Davis; 2 p. m., C L Eilands; at night, D B Mills. After singing and prayer by Elder J W Bullard, then adjourned until Monday 9 o'clock a. m. On Sabbath ministers preached to large and attentive congregations.

MONDAY MORNING—November 3, 1890

The Association assembled with singing and prayer by Elder R. W. Davis. Read minutes of Saturday. Renewed the invitation to visiting ministers, Called for correspondence: From Salem Association, Bros. E M Burks, D B Mills, C M Logan responded. From Zion Ass'n———; from Newton Ass'n———; from Geneva Ass'n——; from Alabama Ass'n ———; from Haw Ridge Ass'n———; from New Providence Ass'n Bros C L Eilands and R W Davis responded.

Returned correspondence: To Salem Ass'n—M Brooks, W H Archer, L F Jernigan, I J Johnson, H J Wood, M A Helms, Z R Fuller; to Zion Ass'n—A J Brooks, D J Williams; to Newton Ass'n—W H Smith, J W Brooks; to Geneva Ass'n—W H Smith, J W Brooks, H S Nichols, J J Thames; to Haw Ridge Ass'n—W H Smith, W A Smith, H R Snelgrove, L F Jernigan. J W Brooks, H S Nichols; to New Providence—W H Johnson, J M Salter, W H Archer, I J Johnson.

On motion, dispensed with reading Rules of Decorum. Called for report on Missions, which was read and adopted. See appendix A. Report on Documents was read and adopted. See appendix B. Report on Nominations was read and adopted, See appendix C. Report on Sabbath schools was read and adopted. See appendix D. Report of Executive Committee. See appendix E. Report on Temperance read and adopted. See appendix F. Report on Periodicals read, amended and adopted. See appendix G. Report on Finance read and adodted. See appendix H. Treasurers' report read and adopted. See appendix I.

The Clerk was instructed to have churches supplied with minutes out of the minute funds, after taking out his salary of $750.

Resolution of thanks offered by J. D. Parkman was adopted.

On motion, one half of the Sabbath collection was to be applied as set out in the report on Missions. On motion, a Minister's and Deacon's meeting was appointed to meet with White Water church Saturday, before 5th Sabbath in May, 1891. A. J. Brooks to preach the introductory sermon. Alternate, Jno. Bradley. A committee consisting of A. J. Wise, Jr., L. F. Jernigan and W. T. Everett, were appointed to draft a programme for the ministers meeting.

Adjourned to meet with Union Grove Church, 6 miles south of Clintonville, on Saturday before the 1st Sabbath in November, 1891.

J. W. Brooks, Moderator.

A. J. Wise, Jr., Clerk.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

M Brooks, Victoria, Alabama: J F Kindreck, Victoria, Ala.; John Bradly, Milo, Ala.; J W Bullard, Daleville, Ala.; J M Rowe, Elba, Ala.; W Allen, Marl; A. J. Brooks, Elba; J. W. Brooks, Marl; J M Tally, Daleville, Ala.

VISITING MINISTERS.

E M Brooks, D. B. Mills, R. W. Davis, C. L. Eilands, Frescoe, Ala.

APPENDIX "A."

We, your committee on Missions, beg leave to make the following report:

That pastors preach to their churches the necessities of the various missions.

That the deacons take up the collections from the several churches and report quarterly to their pastors the amount collected, and the efforts put forth by such deacons in collecting said funds. And the distribution of the funds will be at the discretion of the donor, and in case there is no choice, then we recommend that one-half go to domestic missions and the other half to State Board, to be equally divided between State Board, Home Board and Foreign Board, and that the deacons turn over at the end of each quarter their report to the executive committee and the amounts collected by them to

the treasurer of the association, to be held subject to the order of the executive committee, and one-half to be forwarded to their respective boards for their final disposal.

In conclusion, we recommend that every member who claims the name of Missionary Baptist do something for the cause, and that whatever amount is given be paid quarterly. Our concluding words to each and every member is to work for co-operation in our State Board.

DANIEL SWARMER, Chairman,

APPENDIX "B."

We, your Committee on Documents, offer the following report:

We find that Elba and New Hope churches asks for letters of dismission from this the Pea River Association for the purpose of joining other associations; and we recommend that the letters be granted to the churches.

We also find a petition from Union Grove church asking for the next session of this association, which we also recommend be granted.

We also find a resolution sent up by New Ebenezer church, accompanying an indigent ministers' fund from that church to Mr. Brooks, asking that it be supplemented by the association. We recommend that the request be granted.

All of which is respectfully submitted, J. J. BRADLY, Chr.

APPENDIX "C."

We, your Committee on Nominations, offer the following report: To preach the introductory sermon at next session J. W. Brooks; alternate, J. W. Bullard. For an Executive Committee, M. A. Helms, W. T. Johnson, C. A. Anderson, James L. Lewis and J. A. Taylor.

Respectfully submitted. J. R. SPURLIN, Chairman.

APPENDIX "D."

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, offer the following report: We find only one church, Elba, reports a Sabbath School. We recommend that church for discharging that all important duty, while we see that a majority of the churches have failed in this very important duty. If we would realize any spiritual welfare of our children let us endeavor to raise them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and we cannot advise any better place to bring them up than in a Sabbath School. We hope that every church may report a live Sabbath School at the next session. E. G. BRUNSON, Chr.

APPENDIX "E."

Executive Committee reports that they did employ A. J. Brooks and J. W. Bullard as missionaries for part of the year 1890, and have ordered them paid for their services. For which one reports: Preached 21 sermons, 17 religious visits, traveled 182 miles, baptised 9, received by letter 11, constitnted 1 church.

APPENDIX "F."

We your Committee on Temperance, beg leave to make the following report: Intemperance! intemperance! what a nice name behind which to hide and in which is the origin of such a multitude of crime. Blackness of darkness—intemperance, in which all the crimes known to the criminal laws of our country are at various times fostered, and yet how careless we are, as a people, in regard to intoxicating liquors. We sometimes hear Baptist say, when approached on the subject: We pay our money and we expect to drink when we please, and its nobody's business but our own, we know when to stop. Now, we are not so sure it is their money, for we believe that the Lord has given every christian some missionery money and no doubt that the very money given for missions is often spent for whiskey instead of going into the missionary box. Unfaithful stewards, God will hold you to a strict account for all such acts. Now, as to the quit drinking when they please. We simply say, that the quit drinking when they please sort of to-day is the drunkards of to-morrow. No person in commencing drink ever expects to die a drunkard.

Now, let us appeal to churches to enforce a rigid discipline against tippling

members. Such members should be watched and when an opportunity presents its self—that is when they get drunk, which is as sure to follow as night is after day—be promptly expelled, without a free and full acknowledgement and a good promise to do better is made. For such members of a church brings more reproach upon the cause of our Master than any other class.

All of which is respectfully submitted. J. D. PARKMAN, Chairman.

APPENDIX "G."

We, your Committee on Periodicals, beg leave to make the following report: The Alabama Baptist, published at Montgomery, price $2 per year, and Kind Words, State Mission Quarterly. and Our Homefield and Foreign Mission Journal as wholesome literature. We insist on our Baptist brethren in keeping this literature for their families and Sabbath Schools.

Respectfully submitted, W. A. SMITH, Chairman.

APPENDIX "H."

We, your Committee on Finance, beg leave to offer the following report:

Received for minutes	$26 55
Collected on Sabbath	12 55
New Ebenezer Church for missions	5 00
Mt. Pleasant Church for missions	1 45
Sardis Church for missions	1 25
Total for missions	$20 25
Collected for M. Brooks on Sabbath	10 55
New Ebenezer Church for M. Brooks	6 50

All of which has been turned over to the Treasurer, and his receipt taken for the same. W. H. SMITH, Chairman.

APPENDIX "I."—TREASURER'S REPORT.

W. J. Spurlin in account with Pea River Association:

To amount brought over last year	$72 60
For minutes	26 55
From Finance Committee this session	36 80
From Finance Committee for M. Brooks	17 05

DISBURSEMENTS.

By amount To J. W. Bullard	$36 30
By amount to A. J. Brooks	36 30
By amount to A. J. Wise, clerk	26 55
By amount to M. Brooks	17 05
Leaving a balance now in my hands of	$30 50

W. J. SPURLIN, Treasurer.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Hear letters from the churches read.
2. Elect Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.
3. Invite ministering brethren to seats.
4. Call for Petitions from churches desiring to unite.
5. Appoint Committees. to report during session, viz.
   - To arrange preaching;
   - On Missions;
   - On Finance;
   - On Documents;
   - On Nominations;
6. Call for Correspondence
7. Return Correspondence.
8. Have Rules and Decorum read.
9. Call roll and mark absentees.
10. Hear reports from committees.
11. Hear Treasurer's report.
12. Hear miscellaneous resolutions.
13. Make arrangements for printing Minutes.
14. Correct Minutes, and adjourn.

RULES OF DECORUM.

RULE 1. The Moderator shall fill the chair and preserve order in the Association, which shall be opened and closed by prayer.

RULE 2. The privileges and authority of the Moderator shall be respected by all the members; he shall decide all questions of order and propriety.

RULE 3. The Moderator shall vote in no case, unless there is a tie in the Association, then he shall give the casting vote. He shall have the same privilege of speaking as other members, provided he shall appoint some member to fill the chair.

RULE 4. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and keep the subject; and he shall not speak more than twice on the same subject without leave from the chair.

RULE 5. No member shall leave the body while on business, except by permission from the chair.

RULE 6. When a qustion is taken up, after allowing time for deliberation, the Moderator shall take the voice of the body by calling for the yeas and nays.

RULE 7. All motions in order must be disposed of by the body, unless withdrawn by him that made it.

RULE 8. A list of the names of the delegates shall be called and absentees marked.

RULE 9. The Clerk shall enroll the names of the delegates, and keep a regular record of all the buisness of the Association.

RULE 10. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected before the body rise.

RULE 11. This decorum may be altered, or amended, by twothirds of this body.

STATISTICS OF PEA RIVER ASSOCIATION, 1890.

Churches.	Pastors.	Pastors' Post-Offices.	Clerks.	Clerks' Post-Office.	No. Ordained Ministr's	No. Licensed Ministr's	Incr'se by Baptism.	Incr'se by Letter.	Incr'se by Restoration.	Decr'se by Letter.	Decr'se by Exclusion.	Decr'se by Death.	Present Membership.	For Minutes.	Time of meeting.
Bethlehem	J. F. Davis	Clintonville	A. J. Wise, Jr.	Victoria	1			3		9		1	90	$ 70	1st Sab'th.
3 Notch Bethlehem.	J. W. Brooks	Elton	W. E Byrd	Enterprise	1		5	5	1	2	4	1	50	1 50	
Bluff Springs	J. W. Brooks.	Elton	C.O.H. Martin	Rodny		1	6	4	1	5		3	59	2 25	2d Sabb'th
Damascus	L. D. Hughes	Daleville	J. D. Parkman	Damascus				3			6		65	2 00	4th "
Hebron	John Bradley	Perdue	Z. R. Fuller	Perdue	1			3				2	37	1 00	
Mount Pleasant	A. J. Brooks	Elba	M. B. Adams	Coffee Springs	1	1	6	9			3	2	81	2 00	4th Sab'th
New Ebenezer	J. W. Brooks.	Elton	W. H. Whaley	Elba			1		1	9	1		44	2 30	4th "
New Home	L. D. Hughes.	Daleville	W. G. Harper	Clintonville		1	24	4	3		3		92	2 05	1st "
New Hope	C. L. Mathews	Crittenden Mills	J. T. Eagerton.	Frescal			10		2		3		97	2 30	3d "
New Providence	J. M. Tally	Coffee Springs	T. J. Beard	Elba					1				16	75	2d "
Piney Grove	J. W. Brooks.	Elton	S. W. Thomas	Marl	3			7			4		45	1 50	3d "
Pilgrim's Rest	A. J. Brooks	Elba	F. E. Bedsole.	Cross Trails									20	1 00	
Mount Pleasant			Nelson Barnes	Halton								1		50	
Elba	P. L. Mosely	Milo	R. M. Wilder.	Elba				1					38		3d Sabb'th
Sardis	J. W. Brooks	Elton	L.P. Geogag'n	Mantua			8	8				1	41	1 45	1st "
Union Grove	Jno. Keningt'n	Clintonville	H. T. Johnson	Enterprise			6	7		5	3		32	1 00	
Woodland Grove	C. L. Mathews	Crittenden Mills	E. G. Brunson	Victoria								1	20	1 50	2d Sabb'th
White Water	Jno. Bradley.	Perdue	D. J. Williams	Elba						1	2		46	2 00	1st "
Shiloh	Jesse M. Rowe	Elba	M. A. Helms.	Elba				1					17	50	1st "
Zion Chapel	A. J. Brooks	Elba	J. H. Forman	Rodny							1		18	1 25	4th "

Dear Mr. Adams: Please make a note in the minutes stating that the delay of minutes was caused by getting the manuscript destroyed in the fire in Mr. John's Post Office in Troy, Dec. 25th 1890.

A. J. Wise, Jr, Clerk.